



VLR/VSR
DAYS JULY 13-17-18
2ND EDITION - HLPF

Multilevel governance for SDG localization: Connecting VLRs, VSRs and VNRs

17 July 2023, 13h30 - 15h CEST
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Background:

The current crises demonstrate that effective immediate response, recovery and sustainable solutions are enabled when power and resources are distributed both vertically and horizontally. Hence, it becomes imperative to foster enabling environments that facilitate multilevel governance and multistakeholder coordination.

VNRs, VSRs, and VLRs should not happen in a vacuum, they are powerful processes for promoting SDG performance, coordination, and policy development in a comprehensive manner. When connected, they act as catalysts for SDG localization and as promoters of healthy multilevel governance systems. This mutual nurturing enables a two-way dialogue where national reporting and priorities are informed by localized knowledge and experiences, and local actions are aligned with national sustainable development agendas. It promotes ownership and inclusivity in sustainable development processes.

Many national and local governments around the world are increasingly acknowledging the power that this connection holds, making strides to strengthen multilevel governance for SDG implementation. Moreover, when VLRs, VSRs and VNRs are produced at the same time, it enables governments to find synergies, making the reports richer and more cohesive, and improving the subsequent stages ranging from general coordination, planning new strategies and actions to strengthening the monitoring systems, and ensuring local communities and actors are present and with an active voice in the discussions at all levels.

This session aims to explore the concept of strengthening multilevel collaboration through the connection of VNRs, VSRs and VLRs. It will provide a platform for knowledge exchange among different levels of government as well as other stakeholders. The session will delve into the benefits, challenges, and best practices of integrating these review mechanisms, highlighting the potential for enhanced multilevel governance structures, inclusive decision-making, and localized solutions.

Objective of the session:

- To raise awareness about the importance of multilevel governance in achieving the SDGs

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- To explore the potential synergies and linkages between VNRs, VSRs, and VLRs in fostering effective collaboration and coordination among different levels of government.
- To showcase successful examples of countries that have implemented and benefited from the connection of VNRs, VSRs, and VLRs, highlighting lessons learned and best practices.

Agenda:

Master of Ceremony: **Martino Miraglia**, Human Settlements Officer, UN-Habitat

(13.30 - 13.45) Introductory words

- **Emilia Saiz**, Secretary-General, **UCLG**
- **Srinivasa Popuri**, Chief, Bangkok Programme Office, **UN-Habitat**
- **Jurgen Gafke**, Senior Programme Management Officer, **UNDESA**
- **Dmitry Mariyasin**, Deputy Executive Secretary, **UNECE**

(13.45 - 14.20) Block 1: VNR-VSR-VLR: challenges and opportunities.

Moderator: **Oumar Sylla**, Director, Regional Office for Africa, **UN-Habitat**

- **Jose Pablo Cespedes**, Professional Advisor, MIDEPLAN, **Costa Rica**
- **Meerim Kydyralieva**, Chief Specialist, International Cooperation and Protocol Department, Bishkek City Government, **Kyrgyzstan**
- **Yves Zimmermann**, Director of the Agenda 2030 Project, City and Metropolitan Area of Strasbourg, **France**
- **Stella Sasita**, President's Office Regional Administration and Local Government (PO-RALG), **Tanzania**

(14.20 - 14.55) Block 2: Beyond subnational reporting, how VNR-VSR-VLR connection enhances multilevel governance.

Moderator: **Carol Pollack**, UN Inter-Regional Advisor on Implementation and Review of SDGs, **UNDESA**

- **Natia Tsikaradze**, Head of the Strategic Planning Unit, Government of **Georgia**
- **Modou Jonga**, CEO, Brikama Area Council, **The Gambia**
- **Julio Saguir**, Secretary for Public Management and Planning, Tucuman province, **Argentina**
- **Pedro Neves**, Founder and CEO, Global Solutions, Cascais, **Portugal**
- **Anna Bjornsdottir**, President, Icelandic Association of Local Authorities

(14.55 - 15.00) Concluding remarks

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- **Mia Alibegovic**, Secretary to the Forum of Mayors, Forests, Land and Housing Division, **UNECE**

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